

## JOURNEYS OF THE FAMOUS OLD RELIC; THE LIBERTY BELL

Since the historic day in 1776, when its defiant clangor proclaimed to the budding nation the Declaration of Independence, the Liberty Bell has been the most precious relic of our country. With the original copy of the Declaration of Independence, it is inseparably linked in the hearts of a free people.

Silent for more than a century, its very hush adds dignity to the prophetic inscription graven on its side, and one's patriotism is kindled afresh with the thoughts of the part it took in the great struggle with the government of Great Britain. Its warning to that government, and its appeal to the people of the colonies to stand firm for liberty endeared it to every man, woman, and child in the United States forever.

Taken from its shrine in Independence Hall in 1884 to become a part of the display of human intelligence and progress set forth in the various expositions since the New Orleans World's Exposition, the historic relic, has proved to be of such intense interest to the citizens of the United States east of the Mississippi river, that it is felt that those resident on the plains, amongst the Rocky Mountains and on the Pacific Coast have an equal right to see and revere this symbol of human liberty. Hence its journey to the Panama-Pacific International Exposition at San Francisco.

Upon its six successful journeys hitherto, carried out under the care and protection of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, it received ovations which can be compared only to the triumphal progress of a nation's hero; and the safeguarding of the precious relic, both upon its journey and during the stay at the point where it was taken, has minimized the opposition to its removal from Philadelphia from the minds of those that feared for its safety.

It was with almost a feeling of religious devotion that the people greeted the silent tongued bell when it traversed the great south on its journey to and from the World's Industrial Cotton Exposition at New Orleans in 1884 and 1885.

Millions paid silent homage to it as it stood, guarded by four sturdy policemen, in the rotunda of the World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago in 1893 and at the towns where it stopped in the Middle West on its trip to

and from Chicago.

The enthusiasm of the loyal southerners, displayed upon the New Orleans trip, was doubled when the bell was taken to Atlanta in 1895, to become part of the Cotton States and International Exposition held there, and thousands stood silent in admiration of the symbol of that liberty for which the South helped so largely to achieve in the dark days of 1776-80.

The enthusiasm of New Orleans and Atlanta was repeated on the visit of the bell to the Charleston Exposition in 1902, when residents of the seaboard states were given an opportunity to see the relic both enroute and at the exposition.

The following year when the bell made its fifth successful journey, that to Boston, whither it was taken to become a part of the celebration of the one hundred and twenty-eighth anniversary of the battle of Bunker Hill, thousands of residents not only of the "Cradle of American Liberty," but the state wherein so large a part of the battle for American freedom was fought, paid their tribute of loyalty to the emblem of liberty.

The sixth journey, that to the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis, in 1904 was through a section of the country that had not yet seen the venerable relic. When its brazen tone sounded the knell of British supremacy in the colonies the states through which the bell was taken to St. Louis were trackless wastes. The patriotic citizens who so thickly populated what was once the roaming ground of Indians, gave the bell a very hearty welcome.

On its seventh trip, to San Francisco, the bell was shown to countless thousands among the great farming lands of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kansas, Iowa, and Nebraska; in the newer cities and towns of the plains and the Rockies, and to the citizens of the North Pacific Coast.

Now, after almost five months at Exposition, it is returning by way of the Panama-California Exposition at San Diego and the southern tier of states to the Mississippi valley, then home through another section of the Middle West, New York State, and New Jersey, when thousands of patriotic souls will be stirred by the sight of

That bell, now hanging speechless, dead.

Which rung for freedom, broke, and rung no more:

"Broke with the welcome tidings on its tongue;

Broke, like a heart, with joy's excessive note,—

'Tis well no cause less glorious e'er hath rung

In silver music from its hallowed throat."

Thomas B. Reed

### GOVERNOR McDONALD URGES STATE HONOR LIBERTY BELL

The following memorandum by W. C. McDonald, governor of New Mexico, has been made public:

"I am informed that the Liberty Bell will pass through New Mexico from California on November 16. It will reach Deming at 11:35 o'clock in the morning and remain there until 12, which is the longest stop that will be made in New Mexico.

"Parties from the north can reach Deming the morning of the 16th, over the Santa Fe before the bell gets there.

"It seems to me a great opportunity for all patriotic, liberty-loving citizens to join with the people of Deming in celebrating the presence of the bell that rang in the freedom of our country."

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kirk of Oklaheesa, Iowa, reached Deming Wednesday to visit Mrs. James Rhea. Later Mr. Kirk will visit California and other points on the coast.

S. L. Lour and wife of Silver City were visitors in town Wednesday.

Several young men who have been to Fort Bayard for treatment were in town Wednesday on their way to their respective homes. Frank Lewis was returning to Chargin Falls, Ohio; Harvey Anderson was en route to Portland, Maine; and Alonzo Skudler was returning to Indianapolis, Indiana.

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